L15 ANSWER 58 OF 101 CA COPYRIGHT 2002 ACS
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TI Epitope-specific regulation of the T cell repertoire: carrier recognition in association with I-E or I-A does not influence the restriction of hapten-specific T cells
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AB The T cell repertoire of BALB/c mice contains clones capable of recognizing p-azobenzenearsonate (ABA)-tyrosine (Tyr) in assocn. with both I-A and I-E-encoded class II mols. Immunization of BALB/c animals with ABA-GAT (terpolymer of L-Glu60-L-Ala30-L-Tyr10) or ABA-GLT (

terpolymer of L-Glu51-L-Lys34-L-Tyr15) instead of ABA-Tyr reduces the secondary proliferative response to ABA-Tyr in vitro. Limiting diln. expts. indicate that this situation corresponds to the recruitment of fewer ABA-specific T cells in vivo. The same expts., performed in A.TH mice, which are nonresponder to both GAT nd GLT, demonstrate that the no. of ABA-specific T cells stimulated in vivo with ABA conjugates depends on the Ir gene-controlled immunogenicity of the carrier rather than on the ABA epitope d. on the immunogen. Although GAT is preferentially recognized in assocn. with A, and GLT with E, ABA-GAT and ABA-GLT stimulate both A and E-restricted ABA T cells in vivo and in vitro. The ABA-Tyr-specific T cell repertoire is not qual. affected by the carrier. Thus, the inhibition of hapten-specific T cell expression upon immunization with ABA conjugates does not result from a competition between hapten and carrier-specific T cells for epitope recognition in assocn. with the same Ia mol. on antigen-presenting cells.